



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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Concord, New Hampshire 03301*

*603/225-1552*

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA  
("NEW ENGLAND HIDTA") TASK FORCE**

**FOURTH GUILTY PLEA ENTERED IN SALEM MARIJUANA RING CASE**

**Re: United States v. James CLARK**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey, and Salem Police Chief Paul Donovan announced that **James CLARK**, date of birth of October 20, 1952, of Haverhill, Massachusetts was convicted today on federal marijuana distribution charges.

Clark entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Paul J. Barbadoro to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute marijuana. Clark will be sentenced by Judge Barbadoro on October 23, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. in U.S. District Court in Concord. Clark faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

Clark was arrested in November, 2003 along with seven others as part of a sting operation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration's Northern New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area ("New England HIDTA") Task Force and the Salem Police Department. A Criminal Complaint against these individuals, issued by U.S. Magistrate Judge James R. Muirhead on January 22, 2003, alleged that they participated in a conspiracy to distribute over 100 kilos of marijuana in southeastern New Hampshire and northeastern Massachusetts between January, 2000 and November, 2002.

Clark is the fourth of the eight to enter a guilty plea. Co-defendants **Jose L. MADERA**, of Methuen, Massachusetts, **Sean BOYD**, of Haverhill, Massachusetts and **Arthur SOBERON**, of Salem, New Hampshire have already entered guilty pleas to marijuana trafficking charges.

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U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, “This multi-defendant case involving interstate marijuana trafficking is a prime example of the effectiveness of New England HIDTA, and the Northern New England HIDTA Task Force. I will continue to commit federal resources to these efforts.”

The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (“New England OCDEF”).